

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003174

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. FYI: SOVIET UN PERMREP TROYANOVSKIY AND GROUP OF SMUN OFFICIALS APPLIED TO MAKE ONE-DAY VISIT ON JAN. 8 TO CORTLANDT, NEW YORK, SITE OF VALERIA ESTATE, WHICH WE HAVE DECIDED NOT TO ALLOW SOVIETS TO PURCHASE ON SECURITY GROUNDS. WE INSTRUCTED USUN TO TELL SMUN THAT AREA WAS CLOSED "FOR REASONS OF A TEMPORARY NATURE", BUT THAT AS A COURTESY TO THE AMBASSADOR WE WOULD ALLOW HIM, HIS WIFE, ONE AIDE, AND A CHAUFFEUR TO MAKE THE TRIP. OTHER SMUN STAFF INCLUDING KHARLAMOV, AND FIRYUBIN WERE TURNED DOWN FOR TRAVEL. SMUN CALLED BACK LATER TO TELL USUN THAT ENTIRE TRIP WAS BEING CANCELLED.

2. FOR MAHLON HENDERSON: ROYAL COURT HOTEL, SLOANE SQUARE, SW1W 8EG, TEL. 01-730 9191, ADVISES THEY HOLDING CONFIDENTIAL

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SINGLE ROOM WITH BATH FROM 10 JAN FOR A STAY OF UP TO SEVEN NIGHTS, RATE 12.50 POUNDS INCLUSIVE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, SERVICE CHARG: AND VAT. ALSO, LETTER RECEIVED

FROM SMITH OF KEW; NOT OPENED.

3. REF STATE 292958, ACCUSED WAR CRIMINAL BRONIUS

KAMINSKAS IS NOW HOSPITALIZED. HIS DEFENSE ATTORNEY IS ASKING FOR AN INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT IN HIS DEPORTATION CASE, AND INS IS COUNTERING WITH A REQUEST THAT THE POSTPONEMENT BE ONLY 60 DAYS. SOME KIND OF POSTPONEMENT IS SURE TO BE GRANTED, AND WHEN IT IS WE WILL SEND A CABLE. IT NOW APPEARS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT INS WILL EVER ASK THAT THE POTENTIAL KAMINSKAS WITNESSES COME TO THE US. WE ARE GLAD THAT WE SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED THE INITIAL INS REQUEST TO ASK THE SOVIETS IN PRINCIPLE WHETHER THE WITNESSES COULD COME BEFORE INS HAD MADE THE FINAL DECISION TO ASK THEM TO COME.

4. RE STATE 2504, DURING JAN. 4 MEETING WITH VASEV, JACK ARMITAGE ALSO SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US, IN VIEW NEGATIVE ATTITUDES TOWARD POOLING IN USG, IF THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE AT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN BRINGING UP THE POOLING ARRANGEMENT EARLIER PROPOSED BY THE US.

5. DOT IS STILL TRYING TO WORK OUT WITH GRUMMAN A WAY TO COVER COSTS OF MANNING MEDICAL EVACUATION (MOSCOW 17465, 17663, 19464) AND NEEDS THE EXACT COST FIGURE. EMBASSY HAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED A FIGURE OF "ABOUT US 1,200.00 DOLLARS". PLEASE PROVIDE EXACT FIGURES BY O-I. ALSO, ANTICIPATING ANY BUREAUCRATIC REQUIREMENTS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE A FOLLOW-ON LETTER TO SEND TO DOT WHICH SHOWS HOW THE FIGURES WERE CALCULATED.

6. ALLEN GREENBERG WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT ERDA
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IS RETHINKING ITS HERETOFORE FIRM COMMITMENT TO LOAN A CRYOGENIC REFRIGERATOR TO THE USSR FOR THE SUPERCONDUCTING POWER TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT AT MOSENERGO. THE US SIDE HAS VIRTUALLY DECIDED THAT THE LOAN SHOULD BE CANCELLED, BECAUSE:

(1) BUDGET CUTS FOR ERDA'S DOMESTIC SUPERCONDUCTING PROGRAM WILL SEVERELY LIMIT RESOURCES FOR THE US-USSR COOPERATION;

(2) THE US SUPERCONDUCTING POWER TRANSMISSION EXPERTS WHO TRAVELLED TO THE USSR IN NOVEMBER, 1976 HAVE CONCLUDED THAT LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE; AND

(3) THE SAME TYPE OF EXPERIMENT AS NOW ENVISAGED TO TAKE PLACE IN 1978 IN THE USSR MAY BE RUN HERE WITH A SUPERIOR US CABLE, THUS VIRTUALLY NULLIFYING BENEFITS TO THE US FROM THE LOAN OF THE REFRIGERATOR.

A FINAL DECISION HAS NOT BEEN MADE AND THEY ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY FORMULATING ANY APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS ON THE MATTER. WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED ON DEVELOPMENTS, BUT, IN THE MEANTIME, WOULD SUGGEST THAT YOU BE GUARDED IN ANY COMMENTS TO THE SOVIETS IF THE TOPIC ARISES.

7. WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE SOVIETS ARE REVERSING THEIR EARLIER DECISION (MOSCOW 18890) ON THE NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND. SOME OF OUR COLLEAGUES ARE VERY UPSET AT THIS PROSPECT AND WOULD HOPE FOR A STRONG US RESPONSE, INCLUDING THREATS TO RETALIATE BY REFUSING TO ACCEPT A SOVIET GROUP. FOR OUR PART WE AREN'T SURPRISED THAT THE SOVIETS THOUGHT TWICE ON THIS ONE, BUT IT IS DISAPPOINTING SINCE WE HAVE BENT OVER BACKWARDS TO FACILITATE THE PESNYARI GROUP AND MOVED TO ACCEPT THE RED ARMY CHORUS IF A TOUR IS WORKED OUT WITH THE IMPRESSARIO (HENZEL). WILL YOU BE SENDING IN RECOMMENDATIONS WITH A CABLE WHICH WE CAN USE
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TO STAFF THE QUESTION AROUND?

8. WE HAVE BEEN SCRATCHING OUR HEADS TRYING TO COME UP WITH A GOOD SUGGESTION ON HOW TO SOLVE THE KIEV IMPASSE. WE WILL DO SOMETHING SHORTLY TO MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE NEW YORK GROUP TO SUBMIT TRAVEL NOTES, BUT WILL NOT REQUIRE THEM TO SUBMIT THE NOTES HERE, SINCE THEY INDICATED TO US THAT THEY WOULD RATHER DO IT THAT WAY ANYWAY. ON THE FLORENTSIYA PROBLEMS, WE HAVE NO GOOD SOLUTION, BUT ONE APPROACH MIGHT BE TO TAKE THE SOVIETS UP ON THE SUGGESTION TSYBA MADE TO PORTER (MEMCON OF DECEMBER 10) TO "SIGN THE LEASE AND THEN GO AHEAD WITH ANY MODIFICATIONS" WE WANTED. ONCE WE DID THE WORK THE MOST THE SOVIETS COULD DO IS COMPLAIN. SINCE THEY IGNORE OUR INSTRUCTIONS RIGHT AND LEFT IN NEW YORK, WE ARE ON GOOD GROUNDS IN IGNORING THEIRS. ANOTHER WAY, OF COURSE, WOULD BE TO PRESENT THE LEASE WITHOUT THE OFFENDING CLAUSE, AND IF THE SOVIETS BUY THIS, HAVE THE WORK DONE WITHOUT MENTIONING IT TO THEM. YOU COULD SAY WE WILL ACCEPT THE APARTMENTS IN THEIR PRESENT CONDITION AS SATISFACTORY IN TERMS OF THE CONTRACT AND THEN BRING OUR WORKMEN IN LATER. THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS WHY CUTTING THEM BACK IN NEW YORK WILL NOT WORK. FIRST, THE HIGHER-UPS WON'T LET US

DO IT IN THESE LAST FEW DAYS. AND THEN TRYING TO CONVINCE THOSE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE DISPUTE THAT IT IS SIGNIFICANT WOULD BE A REAL PROBLEM. SECONDLY, SCADS OF SOVIETS ARE IN NEW YORK ATTACHED TO SMUN, AND THEY CAN BE CALLED ON BY THEIR ADVANCE PARTY. WHILE WE HAVE CALLED THEM ON THEIR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF SMUN EMPLOYEES, IT'S LIKE TRYING TO KEEP A LID ON AN ANT HILL. WE THINK, THEREFORE, THAT

CUTTING THEM BACK WILL NOT DAMAGE THEIR OPERATION
CONSIDERABLY AND COULD HAVE EFFECT OF PROLONGING THEIR
STONEWALLING AND MAKING IT WORSE FOR OUR PEOPLE IN KIEV.
PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK. WE WILL TRY TO GET

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OUT A REGULAR CABLE OFFERING SOME VARIATION OF THE
SUGGESTIONS ABOVE ON THE FLORENTSIYA PROBLEMS.
KISSINGER

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